

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Shepherd’s Centers of America Awarded Grant from National Community Care Corps**

*New and expanded volunteer transportation services will help older adults in communities around the country*

Shepherd’s Centers of Americaannounces its selection by the national [Community Care Corps](https://www.communitycarecorps.org/) for funding to enhance and expand volunteer transportation for older adults in 8 communities around the country. The $72,760 grant is for the period August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021.

[Shepherd’s Centers of America](https://www.shepherdcenters.org/)is among the first awardees of the brand-new [Community Care Corps](https://www.communitycarecorps.org/), designed to advance volunteer caregiving services to older adults, persons with disabilities, and family caregivers with much-needed non-medical assistance. As a participating partner, Shepherd’s Centers of America will expand transportation services to benefit older adults, generating a lasting impact on those served, as well as the volunteers serving the community.

“Volunteer transportation programs are a critically important option for meeting the mobility needs of older adults,” says Sarah Cheney, executive director of Shepherd’s Centers of America. “Our expert-lead initiative will inspire out-of-the-box thinking and volunteer engagement for years to come, thus helping even more older adults continue aging in place safely and independently.”

The Shepherd’s Centers network will enhance and expand transportation services through dynamic education and training to meet the growing needs of older adults living in their own homes and communities. The goal is to increase mobility and access to medical and life-enriching activities to help reduce social isolation.

“We are pleased to make this award to Shepherd’s Centers of Americaand its affiliates. Their excellent volunteer model was chosen over hundreds of other outstanding programs across the country,” said Paul Weiss, President of The Oasis Institute which administers Community Care Corps.

Community Care Corps grants are being awarded to organizations to establish, enhance, and grow innovative volunteer models. Community Care Corps is granting $2.44 million to 23 organizations nationwide, including Shepherd’s Centers of America. The program was extremely competitive. One hundred eighty-three organizations from 45 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico applied for funds totaling more than $23 million.

Tens of millions of Americans are in critical need of non-medical assistance to continue living in their homes. Many also need companionship to avert the devastating effects of isolation. Volunteer support is vital for individuals to maintain the ability to live independently and stay connected within their communities.

Community Care Corps, through a cooperative agreement with the federal [Administration for Community Living (ACL)](https://acl.gov/), is led by four national non-profit organizations: [The Oasis Institute](https://www.oasisnet.org/), [Caregiver Action Network](http://www.caregiveraction.org/), [National Association of Area Agencies on Aging](https://www.n4a.org/), and [Altarum](https://altarum.org/). For more information about Community Care Corps and a list of the 2020 grantees, please visit [www.communitycarecorps.org](http://www.communitycarecorps.org).

**About Shepherd’s Centers of America**

Headquartered in Kansas City, MO, Shepherd’s Centers of America is a national network of 58 faith and community-based organizations in 17 states focused on celebrating aging and creating opportunities for lifelong learning, volunteering, and community connections to reduce social isolation. Annually, an estimated 14,000 volunteers give 660,000 hours of service with a calculated value of $16.7 million to society, provided at no cost to individuals, healthcare organizations, or government agencies.

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